



# OREGON Clean Water State Revolving Fund

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## Does your community have a water quality concern?

**We can help!**



State of Oregon  
**Department of  
Environmental  
Quality**



## Prineville project saves money and habitat

As Prineville’s population began growing in the early 2000s, city leaders realized they needed to increase wastewater treatment capacity to meet the demand. But capacity wasn’t the only concern. Increasing user fees to pay for expanded facilities is always contentious and this community already had some of the highest rates.

The city began exploring options, including a study of groundwater and wetland sites. This sparked a solution that saves money, increases capacity, improves habitat and offers recreational opportunities. The resulting project, the Crooked River Wetlands Complex, is innovative in many ways, including:

- Future treatment costs were reduced from \$62 million to \$7.77 million
- Over two miles of riparian improvements to the Crooked River
- Construction of over 120 acres of wetlands, benefitting many species of fish and wildlife
- Lower river temperatures
- 5.4 miles of new walking, running and hiking trails

- Thirteen educational kiosks about the area

Interim financing from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund allowed the city to move forward with work while securing other funding. Interim financing, like all CWSRF loans, has below-market interest rates. This option better leverages available money and is useful for communities receiving funds that are available only after project completion.

Besides the CWSRF interim financing, the city secured a mixture of grants, loans and system charges to fund the work.

“Very rarely do you get an entire community excited about a wastewater treatment plant expansion. We were able to get the community excited about this one because of the ancillary benefits.”

- Eric Klann,  
Prineville city engineer

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The 120-acre, multi-purpose project was made possible by a diverse group of partnerships including Oregon DEQ, the East Cascade Audubon Society, Oregon State Parks, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, USDA-Rural Development and others.

The natural systems approach as well as collaborative funding

meant broad community support for the project. “Having multiple interest groups involved really helped us when we went to fund the project,” said city engineer, Eric Klann. “We received more than \$3 million in grants.”

CWSRF financing is flexible enough to fund non-traditional projects, like the Crooked River

Wetlands Complex. In fact, a portion of the program’s loan dollars are reserved for environmentally innovative projects that go beyond traditional wastewater treatment facilities.

Prineville’s project is so innovative that DEQ staff nominated it for a PISCES award. The national award, given by EPA, honors outstanding CWSRF-financed projects that demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Promote water quality, public health or economic benefits
- Sustainability
- Innovation

Winners will be announced later in the year.

For information about the project visit [cityofprineville.com/wetlands](http://cityofprineville.com/wetlands) and to learn about how an interim CWSRF loan can help your community, [visit us online](#) or call 503-229-LOAN.



*The Crooked River Wetlands Complex, left, is a 120-acre, multi-purpose project.*

## Value engineering gets results

Value engineering is a way to analyze opportunities to maximize efficiency and save money when building water quality treatment facilities.

Research shows that communities can save significant money through this process. The U.S. Government Accountability Office found that multi-millions of dollars could be saved annually if more communities undertook value engineering. Large agencies like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers promote this as a way to increase

savings and project efficiency, while showing good stewardship of public dollars.

Here in Oregon, many communities are realizing large savings through this process. CWSRF-financed projects of \$10 million or more are required to include value engineering but it is recommended for all projects.

How much money can a community save through value engineering?

One Oregon CWSRF loan recipient paid \$30,000 for the study and identified \$1,000,000 in savings.

In Oregon, many communities are realizing large savings through the value engineering process.

While another spent \$87,521 on their study and gained \$1,900,000 in savings. Now that’s a good value!

Learn more about [value engineering](#) online.

## Purple is the new green

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown declared drought emergencies as spring was just beginning, with low-snow pack, little rain and a looming fire season causing concern in many communities. In response, Oregon is looking to recycled water as a conservation tool, as are other states. To distinguish reused water from other types, it flows through purple pipes. While this “purple pipe” water is most often used on landscaping, the EPA says that recycled water can satisfy most water demands, as long as it is adequately treated to ensure safety.

In addition to providing a dependable, locally-controlled supply, water recycling provides significant environmental benefits, such as:

- Maintaining healthy water levels in sensitive eco systems
- Limiting wastewater discharges
- Reducing and preventing pollution
- Creating or enhancing wetlands and riparian habitats

DEQ oversees three general types of reused water:

- *Graywater*: shower and bath wastewater, bathroom and kitchen sink water and laundry wastewater
- *Recycled water*: treated effluent from a municipal wastewater treatment system
- *Industrial wastewater*: the treated effluent from an industrial process, manufacturing or business, or from the development or recovery of any natural resource

Recognizing the benefits, the city of Umatilla has innovative plans to reuse water. Inspired by a project

in Hermiston to reuse water for irrigation, Umatilla is planning to direct water from Amazon and other data centers to agricultural uses. Financed by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the proposed project will ensure more water stays in the Columbia and Umatilla Rivers, maintaining strong flows and lower-temperatures which are essential for aquatic species.

Some data centers use large quantities of water for cooling, and the water is “very, very clean” according to Umatilla city manager, Russ Pelleberg, speaking to the Capital Press. Currently, industrial water from the data centers is treated alongside domestic

wastewater, which is overloading the plant and limiting capacity for business expansion. Meanwhile, data centers and agriculture both need adequate water supplies.

The proposed project could address these problems and leave more water in-stream during the warmer summer months. DEQ project officer, Evan Haas, is working with the community and recognizes many benefits. “This is a good project for multiple reasons,” said Haas, “as it proactively deals with possible future capacity issues at the treatment plant, and also provides a source of water for the West Extension Irrigation District.”

Learn more about [DEQ's water reuse program](#).



Reused water is distinguished by purple pipes, as shown above.

### NEW forms!

The CWSRF loan applications and requirement checklists are newly updated to make them easier to understand and more user friendly. You'll find them [online](#).

Reminder: The next application deadline is August 10, 2018.

Not sure which form to use? Call 503-229-LOAN or visit the CWSRF [contacts page](#).



# Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Clean Water State Revolving Fund  
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CWSRFinfo@deq.state.or.us

## MISSION STATEMENT

Oregon's Clean Water State Revolving Fund program supports communities by funding projects that improve water quality and environmental outcomes for the State of Oregon. The program is dedicated to working with small communities and on projects that increase financial and environmental sustainability, climate resiliency and water and energy efficiency.

- Program Charter

## Clean Water State Revolving Fund Contacts

### Northwest Region

Covering the counties of:  
Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia,  
Multnomah, Washington and  
Tillamook

#### PROJECT OFFICER

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### Western Region

Covering the counties of:  
Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas,  
Jackson, Josephine, Lane,  
Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, and  
Yamhill

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### Eastern Region

Covering the counties of:  
Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam,  
Grant, Harney, Hood River,  
Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Wasco,  
Sherman, Malheur, Morrow,  
Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, and  
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## Upcoming events

JUNE 21

### Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Water & Wastewater Infrastructure  
Finance Workshop

Details at [revents.rcac.org](http://revents.rcac.org)

JULY 11

### The Oregon Association of Water Utilities

Math for operators and/or pumps  
and pumping

Details and more events at [oawu.net](http://oawu.net)

### Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Loan Application Deadline

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

5:00 p.m. Only hard copies will be accepted.

Details at [oregon.gov/deq/wq/cwsrf](http://oregon.gov/deq/wq/cwsrf)

### Environmental Protection Agency

EPA offers ongoing webinars on how revolving  
loan funds can help communities.

[www.epa.gov/cwsrf](http://www.epa.gov/cwsrf)

## Accessibility

Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).